MARVEL LEGACY

KINGPINS OF NEW YORK

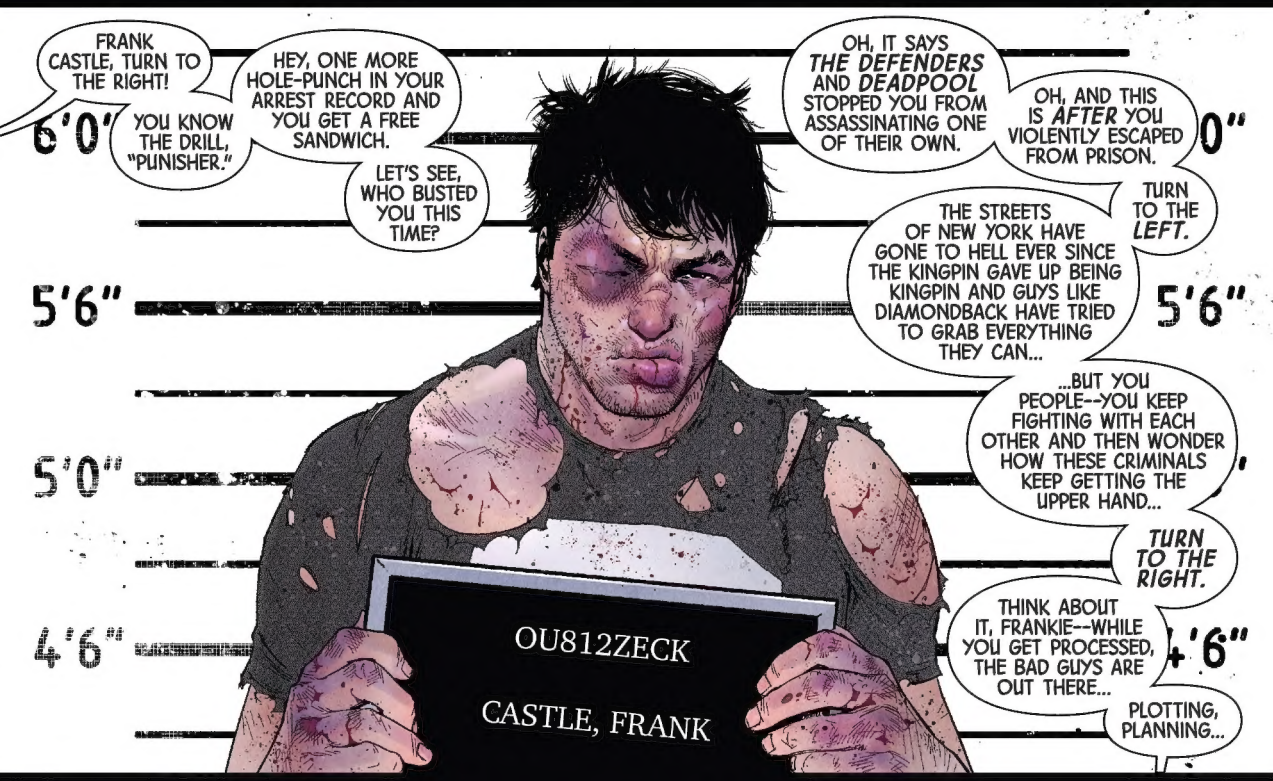
8

DAREDEVIL · LUKE CAGE · JESSICA JONES · IRON FIST

THE DEFENDERS™

BENDIS
MARQUEZ
PONSOR

THE DEFENDERS



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"...READY FOR THEIR MOMENT."

QUIET! NO TALKING.

NO *TALKING?*

I WANT TO PLAY A SERIOUS GAME OF SKILL.

DUDE, YOU HAVE *GOT* TO BE KIDDING.

TITANIA, I WANT YOUR BEST GAME.

FIXER, THIS IS THE *ONE NIGHT* I GET OFF FROM DEALING WITH THE MESS MY DEAD HUSBAND LEFT ME.

THE ONE NIGHT.

I SHOWED UP TO THIS "MEETING" ABOUT THE FUTURE OF OUR INDUSTRY, EVEN THOUGH I *KNEW* OUR HOST, HAMMERHEAD, IS NO LONGER WITH US...

THAT IS HOW MUCH I *NEED* THIS.

TITANIA, I WANT YOUR BEST GAME.

DUDE, IT'S *MONOPOLY.*

SSHH!

OKAY.

YOU-- YOU'RE *LOSING* IT.

REALLY.

THIS GUY DIAMONDBACK GOT HAMMERHEAD, THE BLACK CAT GETS POPPED...

IT'S DUCK-HUNTING SEASON AND NOT *ONE* OF YOU HAS PUT TOGETHER YOUR OWN CREW TO GO GET WHAT'S YOURS?

I'M NOT LOOKING TO BE KINGPIN.

AT THIS POINT, I JUST WANT WHAT'S MINE SO I CAN--

HOLD ON...

WHAT?

I SWEAR TO GOD, RUMOR IS, EVERY TIME SOMEONE STARTS TALKING ABOUT DIAMONDBACK...

...HE--HE SUDDENLY *SHOWS UP...*

LIKE--LIKE BEETLEJUICE.

WHAT ARE YOU *BABBLING* ABOUT?

TRUST ME ON THIS, MOONSTONE, I KNOW WHAT--

OH, *THIS* PLACE...

I *REMEMBER* THIS PLACE...

THIS IS WHERE THE KINGPIN BECAME THE KINGPIN.

I WAS HERE.

WELL, I WAS OVER THERE.

I SAW IT.

HISTORY IN THE MAKING.

BUT IT WAS *HERE* THAT THE KINGPIN MADE HIS BONES.

SEE, A LOT OF PEOPLE DON'T KNOW THIS...

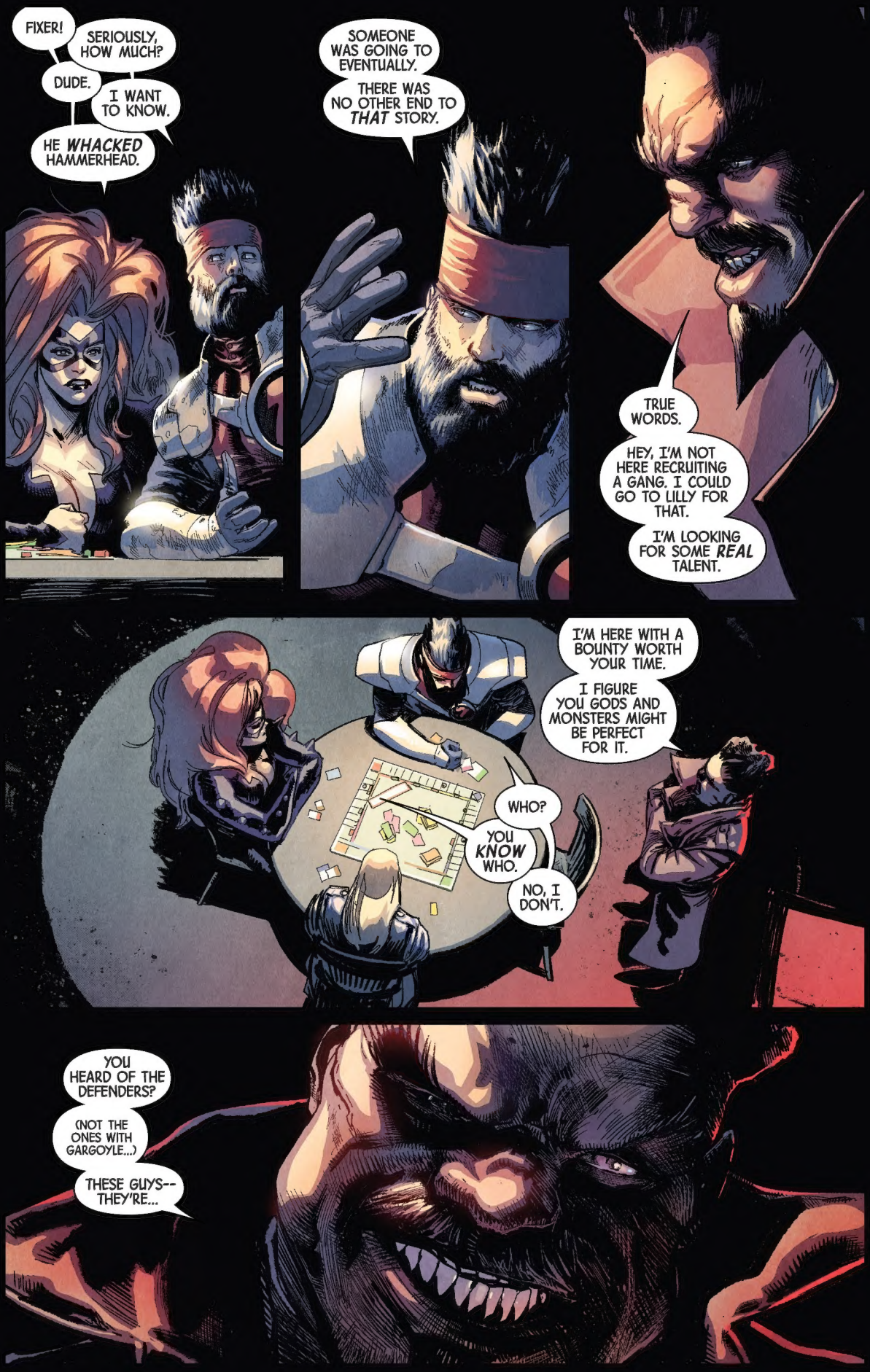
CAN WE HELP YOU?
WILSON FISK WAS AN ENFORCER FOR THE RIGOLETTO FAMILY.
BUT BETWEEN WILSON'S BLIND AMBITION AND DON RIGOLETTO SQUEEZING EVERYBODY HE EVER MET FOR EVERY DIME HE COULD SQUEEZE OUT OF THEM...
...IT WAS ONLY A MATTER OF TIME...
THEN THE DAY CAME.
WILSON FISK LOOKED GOD HIMSELF IN THE EYE AND SAID-- MY TURN.
THERE'S CLEARLY BEEN SOME SORT OF MISUNDERSTANDING.
DON RIGOLETTO.
DON @#$@#$ RIGOLETTO.
HE SAT RIGHT THERE.
COOL A.F.
DON RIGOLETTO SAID, "FISK, THIS IS NOT HOW THIS IS GOING TO GO DOWN..."
IT'S A SIMPLE DIFFERENCE IN BUSINESS MANAGEMENT, DON RIGOLETTO.
I THINK YOU HAVE TO PAY YOUR BILLS TO RUN AN EFFECTIVE OPERATION AND YOU CLEARLY HAVE DECIDED OTHERWISE.

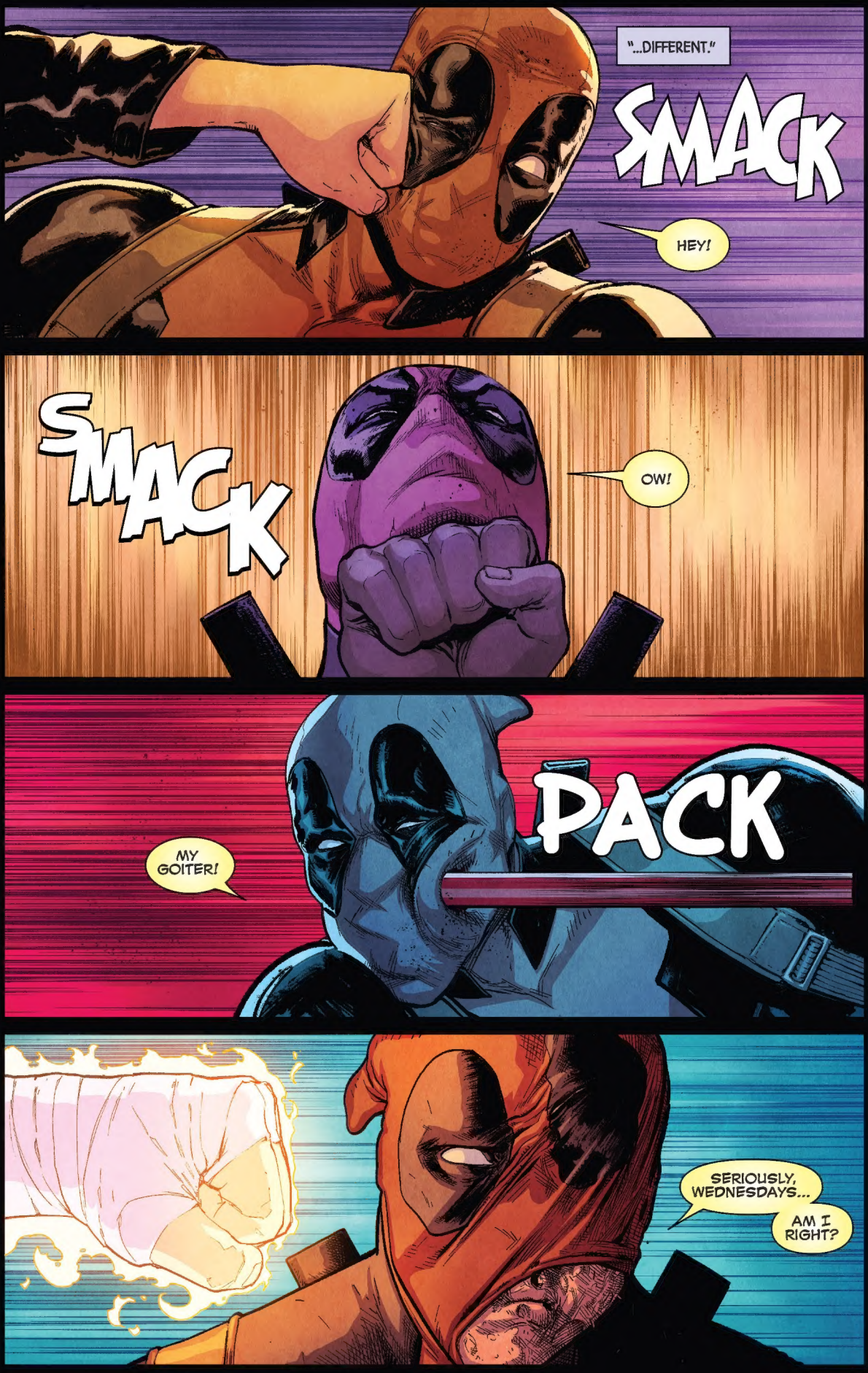
I'M THE DON OF THIS FAMILY, FISK.
NOT YOU.
THERE ARE WAYS THINGS GET DONE.
AND RULE NUMBER ONE, IF YOU EVER TOOK YOUR FACE OUT OF THE CANDY JAR LONG ENOUGH TO CARE, IS...
...MY BUSINESS IS NONE OF YOUR FAT #$@#$ BUSINESS.
YOU'RE NOT HEARING ME, DON...
I'M TELLING YOU...
...YOU DIDN'T PAY YOUR BILLS, SO I PAID THEM FOR YOU.
THE MOMENT IT ALL CHANGED.
I DIDN'T KNOW IT AT THE TIME, OF COURSE.
NO ONE DID.
FISK HOPED, SURE.
MY FEELING IS ONCE THE GUNS OR POWERS COME OUT, I DON'T CARE HOW FORWARD-THINKING OR BADASS YOU ARE, NO ONE KNOWS WHAT'S REALLY GOING TO HAPPEN NEXT...

"I'VE THOUGHT ABOUT THAT MOMENT A LOT.
"MAN, IF YOU LOOK UP AND EVERYBODY YOU KNOW IS POINTING A GUN AT YOU...
"...THAT'S PROBABLY ON *YOU*.
"*YOU* PUT YOURSELF THERE.
"AND IF YOU'RE A BAG MAN FOR THE MOB AND YOU DECIDE YOU'D RATHER GO OUT IN A HAIL OF @#$@#$ GLORY THAN SPEND ONE MORE SECOND BEING LESS THAN ALL YOU CAN BE WORKING FOR AN OILY ROLY-POLY LIKE RIGOLETTO...
SO IS THIS A "RING KISS" OR A "GOODBYE"?
RING KISS.
OKAY, THEN...

AND I HAVE TO SAY, EVEN IN THE MOMENT, I THOUGHT, HEY...
OKAY, YEAH, I'M LOW MAN ON THE TOTEM POLE FOR SURE...
...BUT I AM PART OF THIS CREW.
"WHY DIDN'T ANYONE CLUE ME IN ON THE BIG MUTINY?
"WAS IT BECAUSE I WAS BLACK?
"THESE 'OLD-SCHOOL' GUYS..."
THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU'VE TAUGHT ME.
GOODBYE.

STRYKER.
THE DON CALLED YOU DIAMONDBACK.
WHY DID HE CALL YOU THAT?
'CUZ HE WAS AN IDIOT.
YOU AND MR. LUCAS...GET RID OF THE BODY, WILL YOU?
THEN REPORT TO CAESAR CICERO FOR SOME REAL WORK.
I HAVE MY EYE ON YOU.
THIS $@#$ GUY COMES UP TO ME, A STRANGER, AND SAYS, "WILL YOU GET RID OF THAT DEAD BODY I JUST KILLED?"
ONLY A MILLION YEARS LATER WOULD I FIND OUT HE KNEW EXACTLY WHO I WAS AND HE KNEW EXACTLY WHO EVERYONE IN THAT ROOM WAS.
HE LEFT NOTHING TO CHANCE.
I'D NEVER TOUCHED A DEAD BODY BEFORE.
HE HAD THE GAME PLAYED AND WON BEFORE RIGOLETTO EVEN PUT ON HIS TIGHTY-WHITIES THAT MORNING.
IT WAS-- MAN, IT WAS INSPIRING.
GREAT STORY.
#$@#$ OFF.
YOU GUYS LIKE MAKING ACTUAL MONEY?
OH PLEASE, WE ARE NOT COMING TO WORK FOR YOU, CRAZY-PANTS MCGILLICUTTY.
HOW MUCH?


FIXER!
SERIOUSLY, HOW MUCH?
DUDE.
I WANT TO KNOW.
HE WHACKED HAMMERHEAD.
SOMEONE WAS GOING TO EVENTUALLY.
THERE WAS NO OTHER END TO THAT STORY.
TRUE WORDS.
HEY, I'M NOT HERE RECRUITING A GANG. I COULD GO TO LILLY FOR THAT.
I'M LOOKING FOR SOME REAL TALENT.
I'M HERE WITH A BOUNTY WORTH YOUR TIME.
I FIGURE YOU GODS AND MONSTERS MIGHT BE PERFECT FOR IT.
WHO?
YOU KNOW WHO.
NO, I DON'T.
YOU HEARD OF THE DEFENDERS?
(NOT THE ONES WITH GARGOYLE...)
THESE GUYS-- THEY'RE...


"...DIFFERENT."
SMACK
HEY!
SMACK
OW!
PACK
MY GOITER!
SERIOUSLY, WEDNESDAYS...
AM I RIGHT?

USUALLY I'M NOT A FAN OF PANEL BORDER BREAKS, BUT THIS...
ANYONE GOT ANY, AH, BACTINE?
THAT IS NOT WHAT I TOLD YOU TO DO!
TO BE FAIR, I COULD BARELY HEAR YOU OVER THE SOUND OF THE VOICE ALREADY IN MY HEAD.
I DON'T UNDERSTAND, JESSICA...YOU INVITED DEADPOOL INTO THIS?
WHY?
I ASKED HIM TO HUNT DOWN SOME LEADS ON DIAMONDBACK.
(DAREDEVIL.)
BECAUSE WE'RE TEN STEPS BEHIND, DEVILBOY!
AND HE RUNS IN CIRCLES WE DON'T.
YOU CAN SAY THAT @#$# AGAIN.
THEN WHY DID YOU TURN ON US?!
NO! WHAT? NOOOO!
THE PUNISHER WAS JUST ABOUT TO ASSASSINATE "HOT STUFF" HERE, AND I STOPPED HIM.
THAT IS FACT!
AND THEN WHEN WE CAUGHT WIND AND CAME AFTER HIM, YOU OPENED FIRE ON US!
WELL!
I MEAN, IT'S COMPLICATED--

BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA
OH MY GOD!
IT'S EVERYTHING MOMMY SAID IT WOULD BE!

YOU KNOW I'M BULLETPROOF.
THAT'S WHAT MADE IT SOOOOOOHHAAAHH FOR ME.
IT'S ALL I THINK ABOUT WHEN I LOOK AT YOU!
THE FACT THAT I'M NOT SHOOTING AT YOU RIGHT NOW SHOWS THE MOST SELF-CONTROL I'VE EVER SHOWN!
(IT'S A COMPLICATED FEELING.)
TELL ME THAT'S NOT REALLY IT.
GUYS! GUYS GUYS GUYS!
I CAUGHT HIM ABOUT TO SNIPE YOU, I DOVE IN TO STOP IT AND THEN I TRIED TO ESTABLISH A CIRCLE OF TRUST WITH FRANK CASTLE SO THAT HE WOULD CONFIDE IN ME WHAT HE KNOWS ABOUT DIAMONDBACK SO THEN I COULD TELL YOU.
(BUT MOSTLY THE FIRST THING...)
WHICH IS EXACTLY WHAT SHE BLACKMAILED ME INTO DOING!
HELPING YOU FIND DIAMONDBACK! AH-DOY!
BLACKMAILED?
YOU OWE ME AND AGREED TO HELP WHEN I ASKED.
YOU CALLING IN THE MARKER IS, IN ITSELF, A FORM OF BLACKMAIL.
BABE...
...HIT HIM AGAIN.
WITH YOUR ENTIRE FIST.
HOW WOULD FRANK CASTLE TRUST YOU IF YOU'RE THE ONE THAT STOPPED HIM FROM ASSASSINATING ME?
BECAUSE, HELLO--UH, DUH!
UM...
HMM.
IT MADE SENSE IN MY HEAD.
I CAN TAKE IT BACK TO MY DESK AND WORKSHOP IT.

OKAY, SURE, I SEE IT NOW.
BUT, HEY, THE PUNISHER IS IN JAIL FOR THE NEXT SEVEN MINUTES.
WE DID THAT. US.
HIGH FIVES ALL AROUND.
LET'S GO BACK TO TITANS TOWER AND TAKE A SHOWER TOGETHER.
OH, OKAY, I GET IT...
THE TEAM-UP IS OVER.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO HIT ME FOR TWO MORE PAGES...
I WILL DO MY DUTY AND KEEP AN EAR OUT ON THIS WHOLE "NEW KINGPIN OF NEW YORK CITY" THING.
(UNLESS IT'S ME.)
TWIST!
SLAAMMMM VRROOM
IS HE GONE GONE?
HOLD ON...
YES.
'KAY, WELL...
I DON'T WANT TO POINT FINGERS, BUT...

WHAT THE ACTUAL @%!#@$?
YOU UNDERSTAND HE IS CERTIFIABLY INSANE!
OH?
REALLY?
I ONCE SAW HIM, IN FRONT OF CHILDREN, TAKE A MEXICAN DINNER ENTREE AND--
OH, WE'RE TOSSING LABELS AROUND?
YES, I TRIED TO THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX TO GET AN EDGE ON THIS, BUT BUDDY, I'M NOT TAKING AN OUNCE OF @#$@ FROM YOU BECAUSE I HAVE NO IDEA WHO THE HELL YOU ARE!
YOU DRESS LIKE THE DEVIL AND, YES, YOU SEEM SO @#$@ FAMILIAR, BUT YOU ARE NOT TELLING ME WHAT'S NUTS!
WE WERE JUST TALKING ABOUT THIS BEFORE THE PUNISHER TRIED TO WHACK YOU...
I... KNOW.
AND IF PUNISHER WERE SPECIFICALLY TARGETING YOU NOW...
ACCORDING TO DEADPOOL, BUT SURE...
HEY...
YOU GET IT, RIGHT?

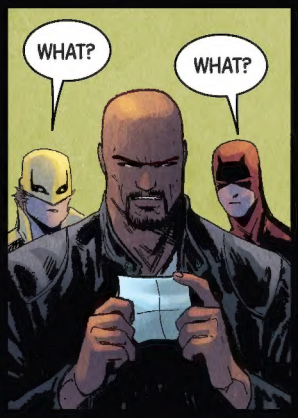
I'M YOUR LAWYER.
IT'S ME...MATTHEW MURDOCK.
I KNEW IT.
WHAT ABOUT GARY THE PRIZEFIGHTER?
SO YOU PRETEND TO BE BLIND SO PEOPLE WON'T KNOW YOU'RE REALLY--?
DUDE, THAT IS HIGHLY PROBLEMATIC FOR ME.
I AM BLIND.
OH! DUDE, THAT IS AWESOME.
THERE WAS THIS STREET-FIGHTER NAMED STICK WHO WAS BLIND.
HE WAS MY SENSEI.
HEY! NO WAY.
HE USED TO BEAT ME.
OH...
NO WAY.
HOW'D YOU GET YOUR RADAR AND STUFF?
LIGHTNING BOLT?
RADIOACTIVE SPIDER?
HOWARD THE DUCK STD?
RADIOACTIVE ISOTOPE.

WHERE ARE WE?
WHICH ROOM?
739.
Mount Sinai Intensive Care Unit
THERE YOU ARE!
NYPD. FRANK QUAID. SHE JUST UP AND LEFT?
SHE JUST UP AND DISAPPEARED.
HEY, THIS IS PALMER DOWN AT MT. SINAI WITH CAPTAIN QUAID.
WE HAVE A 10-80.
FELICIA HARDY IS MISSING.
YEAH.
THE BLACK CAT IS ON THE LOOSE.
WE'LL GO THROUGH THE BUILDING SECURITY--
YES, I KNOW HOW TO QUESTION THE--

SO, DIAMONDBACK HAD YOU FROM DAY ONE, TOO.
MAYBE.
HE KNOWS YOUR TRUE IDENTITY.
I DON'T THINK HE DOES.
THE WAY HE REACTS TO ME IN UNIFORM--HIS HEARTBEAT--
--I THINK SOMEONE TOLD HIM IT WOULD GET MY ATTENTION.

I DON'T LIKE ANY OF THIS.
AND I STILL DON'T GET WHY PUNISHER WAS TRYING TO RUB YOU OUT RIGHT IN FRONT OF US.
YOU KNOW, THE MORE I THINK ABOUT IT, I THINK HE WAS JUST SPYING ON US WITH HIS SNIPER SCOPE.
YOU THINK DEADPOOL DEADPOOLED IT.

I THINK, JUST BASED ON EVERY DAY OF MY LIFE EXPERIENCE, PUNISHER WAS TRACKING US.
HE WAS RIGHT OUTSIDE OF MY RADAR RANGE.
RIGHT OUTSIDE.
GUYS, I KNOW WE HAVE TO EAT TO FUNCTION AS HUMAN PEOPLE, BUT--
WE'RE NOT HERE TO EAT.
WE'RE NOT?


WHAT?
WHAT?

YOU WERE RIGHT, JESS...
CHAOS BRINGS NOTHING BUT MORE CHAOS...
PARKER ROBBINS IS HERE.
OH, I HATE THAT GUY!
WHO'S PARKER ROBBINS?
WHERE DO I KNOW THAT NAME?

YOU ONLY KNOW HIM AS...

THE HOOD
EVENING.
BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM

HEY, HAMMERHEAD, 'MEMBER ME? DON'T TRY TO TALK.
YOU'VE JUST EXPERIENCED SOMETHING.
JJDOTOME?
A NORN STONE RESURRECTION. YOU'RE WELCOME.
GAVE YOU A BIG, BIG SECOND CHANCE.
I'M ALL ABOUT SECOND CHANCES.
ESPECIALLY WHEN THAT SECOND CHANCE INVOLVES YOU BEING MORTALLY INDEBTED TO ME AS I MAKE MY PLAY.
I'M THE NEW KINGPIN OF NEW YORK.
LET EVERYONE KNOW, WILL YOU?
TO BE CONTINUED...

NEXT!

@HeiligeCubbins
Gorgeous story, excellent interactions between characters...the perfect comic to chill! #Defenderscomic

@BrandonKRuttle
I just read THE DEFENDERS #6 and I can honestly say I didn't see that reveal coming! Great book!

@Man_of_Feelz
What an amazing idea to have part of #Defenderscomic #6 be done in a trial sketch format. Major props to the creative team!

@ZombieFi7
#Defenderscomic Name for the letters page...The Verdict or The Conclusion!!! Sincerely, Paul Belew

@Excelsior626
I literally cannot get enough of #Defenderscomic. such an intense rollercoaster of awesomeness, an epic all-rounder comic!

@FrankygoestoNY
#Defenderscomic is easily Marvel best looking book right now. @BRIANMBENDIS & @DaveMarquez symbiosis match the characters. GREAT!

@durinfunerals
Bendis's #Defenderscomic is destroying me right now. Danny & Jessica kicking all kinds of ass, plus the never-ending team banter!

DEFENDERS #9

ALL ON SALE THIS MONTH!

LUKE CAGE #168

JESSICA JONES #15

DAREDEVIL #596

IRON FIST #75

We want to hear from you! Send your letters to MHEROES@MARVEL.COM marked "OKAY TO PRINT," or tweet us using the hashtags #DefendersComic and #OKtoprint for a chance to see your tweet printed in future issues!